

IWADE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 11th December, 2013

<u>Present:</u>	Cllr. J. Hunt - Chair Cllr. S. Plumb – Vice-Chair Cllr. R. Rook Cllr. J. White Cllr. L. Mitchell	Lynda Fisher, Clerk Nick Mayatt, Community Warden County Cllr. Lee Burgess 11 Parishioners Kelly Upson and Donna Seager from Swale Borough Council
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Prior to the meeting Kelly Upson and Donna Seager, Contract Monitoring Officers for Swale Borough Council, ran a short presentation on the new waste collection service being introduced in 2014.

After the 16th December waste can be comingled in the blue bin; no more separating glass from other recyclables. Plastic containers such as margarine tubs, meat trays, ice cream tubs, yoghurt pots and tetra-packs can go into the blue bin

There will be alternate weekly kerbside collections of textiles one week and small electrical items collections the other. Used household batteries can be placed on the top of the green refuse bin in a clear plastic bag on collection day.

There will also be a weekly collection of food waste; householders will be given a 5 litre kitchen caddy for indoor use and this can then be transferred into a new 23 litre food bin, which should be kept outdoors. All food waste will be recycled into compost.

The Chairman thanked Kelly and Donna for their valuable presentation.

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed Parishioners to the meeting. Apologies were received from County Cllrs. Truelove and Parish Cllrs. Jennings, Wastall, Hyde and Gale.

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

Three Members present at the meeting had a non-pecuniary interest in Iwade School and the Clerk agreed to grant a dispensation to each Member of these Members with effect from 11th December, 2013 until 1st May 2015 (unless revoked by the Council before then) as follows:

“Matters relating to Iwade Primary School – Non-pecuniary interest; could impede the transaction of the business – i.e. the meeting would be inquorate if insufficient Members were present”

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Monthly Parish Council meeting held on the 13th November, 2013, were proposed by Cllr. White and seconded by Cllr. Plumb; agreed and signed as a true transcript.

The Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on the 3rd December, 2013, were proposed by Cllr. Rook and seconded by Cllr. Mitchell, agreed and signed as a true transcript.

The Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on the 3rd December, 2013, were proposed by Cllr. White and seconded by Cllr. Mitchell, agreed and signed as a true transcript.

The Chairman, with approval from other Members, brought forward the visitors and public time in light of the item on the Agenda regarding the school expansion.

5. Visitors/Public Time

1. **Parishioners** – A resident referred to the school expansion and the proposal to increase from two to three form entry; 420- 630 pupils. He felt that numbers should be fixed to cater for each area within the Borough and not be increased to the extent that schools such as Iwade were then taking in pupils from other areas. He was concerned that this would bring more traffic into the village and had fears about safety outside the school.

Cllr. Rook commented that the school's idea is that they will be able to offer every child in Iwade a place.

Cllr. Plumb mentioned the proposed development on the A249, comprising of 900 homes, linked to which will be a new primary school and new secondary school.

Reference was made the figure of 44 children from Iwade who obtained a place in the Reception Classes in 2013; these two classes take a total of 60 pupils.

Another Parishioner mentioned non-residents coming into the village; she felt that KCC should look at all Schools within the Borough and fix admissions so as not to encourage movement of vehicles throughout Swale.

Cllr. Rook thought that it was important that KCC look at the parking situation.

A resident stated unless planning has changed KCC are not allowed to build schools before the need is there; that is the planning law for schools. Cllr. Plumb answered that at the public consultation meeting in the school KCC stated that the need is here.

Another resident thought it was misleading and asked where the funding was coming from? He referred to 2013 and only 43 coming from Iwade; what justification is there for expansion? When there was the Academy meeting the Executive Headteacher, Katrina Ware, stated that it was not right to increase to a three form entry school. The resident felt strongly that there was no evidence that Iwade needs a bigger school.

Cllr. Plumb mentioned that several parents could not get their children into school last year; but this was mid year.

Another resident queried why there was a need for this in Iwade.

Cllr. White understood the need of the concept for extra capacity and asked about a medical room and changing rooms. Cllr. Plumb responded that this is only at the consultation stage; these items will need to be looked at during the planning stage.

The Chairman thought that more information is needed on this because of the traffic impact in the village. If it happens it should be for local people, not people having to drive miles into the village. There is also a need to be sure from a community point of view that there is justification for this.

County Cllr. Burgess (KCC Shadow Cabinet Member for Education) mentioned in the planning area there is a deficit for the next couple of years.

The Chairman stated that as a Parish Council we should only be looking at Iwade residents; whether this will have an impact on residents, e.g. traffic, because of people from outside driving into the

village. KCC at one stage did say there was no need for an expansion; if this is also to cater for pupils from elsewhere in the Borough, why can't it go on a different site? County Cllr. Burgess can try to push for a different site. The Chairman thought the school does need expansion, but not on the same site; if they are building another school in Grovehurst Road it would make sense to build a satellite there. County Cllr. Burgess commented that the Government were giving money for the expansion at Iwade School and elsewhere.

Residents were generally not against the concept of the school expanding to meet the needs of the children of Iwade; but had concerns regarding available spaces being filled by pupils from elsewhere in the Borough, adding to the traffic problems already in the village.

A resident queried the times work was being carried out on the Persimmon development in school Lane. There are loud noises coming from the site at 7.00 a.m. in the morning. Over the last couple of weeks loud banging can be heard on Sundays due to contractors being on site. He queried whether wheel washing facilities were on site due to the vast amount of mud being carried onto School Lane and down as far as Ferry Road. Clerk to e-mail Planning Enforcement again regarding these issues.

Action: Clerk

2. **County Councillor and Borough Councillors** – See County Cllr. Burgess' comments above.
3. **Community Warden (Nick Mayatt)/PCSO** –Nick's report has been circulated to Members and contents noted. He referred to the flooding on Thursday - Cllr. Rook has been looking at a flood plan but has not had any volunteers, particularly four-wheel drive owners, come forward to assist. Nick commented that the flood defences are not being maintained and damage is being caused to them by quad and motor bike riders.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

1. **S.106 Agreements, Phase 8 Wards Homes** –Clerk to add this to the Localism Live Project Meeting Agenda in January.
Action: Clerk
2. **20 MPH Speed Limit in Iwade Village** – Clerk has not heard anything further from County Cllr. Truelove on this.
3. **Iwade School Consultation** – At the request of Members, the Clerk has obtained figures for the past three years for pupils being admitted into Year R and the Chairman read out an e-mail received from the Executive Headteacher concerning the consultation.

From comments received, it would appear that residents understand that there is a need to expand the school, but this is going to cause major problems with traffic in the village and issues around this. If there is a satellite school this would address all of these issues.

There is a need for a Kitchen at the school, if there is an increase to three form entry Members questioned whether KCC would be able to comply with the statutory requirement to provide a mid-day meal. The system as it is at the moment does not always work and a kitchen would be beneficial to the children when the free school meals come in in 2014.

Changing rooms are essential, at present children change in front of each other which could be embarrassing for some.

With one abstention, it was agreed to respond to the consultation stating that Parish Council supports the expansion to three forms entry and the residents understand that there is a need for it, but this is going to cause major issues with traffic in the village and issues around this. The question of a satellite school was raised and we would ask if this has been investigated as this would address these issues and if appropriately located assist areas where there is a shortage of places, such as Kemsley and Bobbing, cutting down on the need for parents to travel some distance to school.

Other concerns raised by residents were the need for a Kitchen and changing rooms, both for the welfare of the children.

Action: Clerk

4. **Management Companies** – Gordon Henderson, M.P., has written to residents in Sandling Way and the area informing that they need to set up their own Management Company and then they can sack Peverell. Other householders within the village who are having problems with their Management Companies need to come forward.

6. Finance

1. **WWI Commemorative Trees, 2014-2018** – Defer to January meeting. Action: Clerk
2. **Financial Regulations** – Members approved the circulated Financial Regulations, which were adopted by the Council at this meeting.
3. **2014/15 Budget/Precept and impact of loss of Support Grant from Swale Borough Council** – Members noted that the Support Grant has been withdrawn by Swale and this will mean a loss in revenue to the Parish Council. The draft Budget that was prepared by the Finance Committee has been circulated to all Members and was noted. The Clerk advised that the increase in the precept was £2000, but on top of this needed to be added the loss of the Support Grant which equates to £2625. It was proposed by Cllr. White and seconded by Cllr. Hunt, all agreed, to accept this Budget, subject to receipt of figures from Swale Borough Council giving the Tax Base Rate, which is required in order to calculate the actual increase to Band D properties. Clerk to place this item on the January Agenda. Action: Clerk
4. **Grants 2014/15** – The Chairman explained that this year the grant had been calculated per head on members of each group who reside in Iwade and then a small amount divided between the Herons and Cubs, Scouts and Beavers. It was proposed by Cllr. Mitchell and seconded by Cllr. White, all agreed, that the following grants be approved for 2014/15:

Iwade Mother and Toddler Group	£900
Iwade Women's Institute	£266
Iwade Herons	£1545
Iwade Cubs, Scouts and Beavers Groups	£1271

5. **Donation for Insurance – Fund raising event for McMillan Cancer** – Letter from the organiser of ‘Frankies Lab’ noted. It was proposed by Cllr. Rook, seconded by Cllr. Hunt; agreed to donate £50 towards the insurance costs for this event.
6. **Use of David Bucket to produce a Business Plan for The Barn** – See Item 8.2 below.
7. **Greenshanks – parking on grass verges: request for bollards** – Clerk to ask the Village Handyman to submit a quote for the installation of wooden bollards. Action: Clerk
8. Half Yearly Internal Audit – The report prepared by the Internal Auditor, David Bucket, which has been circulated to all Members was noted and accepted.
9. **Cheques signed at this meeting** - Members agreed signing of the following cheques and the accounts to the 30th November, 2013 be accepted.

Date	Chq.	Details		Amount
11.12.13	1659	L. Fisher – Expenses	Telephone/Broadband/Use of Home as office October, Stationery	£27.38p
11.12.13	1660	Steve Wakeling	Handyman Duties and Materials November (inc. Fencing materials for Village Hall garden	£415.17p

11.12.13	1661	PFL Electrical Limited	Repairs 8 Meadow Close	£76.80p
11.12.13	1662	Kent Assoc. of Local Councils	'Local Councils Explained' Book	£39.99p
11.12.13	1663	David Buckett	Interim Internal Audit for 2013-14	£189.90p
11.12.13	1664	J. Hunt	Star, cable ties; Jubilee Hose Clips; hazard tape; postcrete; Barrier Tape for Iwade Christmas Tree	£56.94
Six cheques in total				

The following payments were made by Direct Debit: L. Fisher: Wages, November, 2013, £581.62p; Eon: Energy Supply, Street Lighting, £56.70p; Countrystyle Hire of 110 Ltr. Envirobin, November, 2013, £47.76p

7. Correspondence

1. **Community Governance Review** – Alterations to boundary still refused; Clerk to write to Swale Borough Council stating that Members are somewhat puzzled by this matter and ask them to again look at the original boundary which cuts across the middle of the field; whereas the change requested follows the natural line of the new road, which makes more sense. Action: Clerk
2. **Have your say on Kent and Medway Fire and Rescue Authority's Safety Plan 2014** – The Chairman referred to the plan and commented that the only requirement is for the equipment to attend in a reasonable time. Sittingbourne is already a day manned station (not nights) and therefore cuts to the station, e.g. less staff, is of considerable concern, especially with all the extra building that is going on in this area. It needs a full time station in this area, which is particularly relevant to our village being a distance from the town and to Ridham where wood and hazardous waste is stored. It was agreed that Cllrs. Plumb and Mitchell will draft a letter and the Chairman will place an article on Iwade Does Facebook. Action: Cllrs. Plumb/Mitchell and Hunt
3. **Refresh of Police and Crime Plan April 2013 to March 2017** – Noted.
4. **Have your say on Police Council Tax** – Chairman to complete this on line on behalf of the Parish Council.
5. **Future of Local Audit: Draft Regulations Consultation** – Agreed to support the KALC response to this consultation.

8. Iwade Localism Project (Swale Borough Council)

1. **10 Point Plan** – Next meeting to take place on the 8th January 2014; Clerk to place on the Agenda S.106 Agreements; parking problems within the village and the School; Speed Limit and speed problems within the village; the Barn. Action: Clerk
2. **The Barn** –Meeting held this month with Swale Borough Council; they have come up with draft Heads of Terms. It is being proposed that the Parish Council takes it on as Sole Trustee for the Barn Charitable Trust and to seek guidance on this with KALC. A sub-committee will undertake the management of the barn and management of the car park needs to be agreed. It has been recommended by KALC that David Bucket produces a business plan. A report on the proposed leasing to the Parish Council will be going to Swale Borough Council's Cabinet in March, 2014.

It was proposed by Cllr. Rook and seconded by Cllr. Plumb, all agreed that the Parish Council continues along the above path; takes advice from KALC; enlists the assistance of David Buckett to produce a business plan and seeks the professional services of Solicitors – Jarmans – who have been employed by us previously. Action: Cllr. Hunt/Clerk

9. Preparation for Bad Weather Conditions

The Chairman has a list of volunteers to assist with spreading salt; the salt has arrived and is located at the village hall.

10. Planning

Current applications:

1. KCC/SW/0346/2013 - Variation of condition 9 of planning permission SW/11/548 (use of building 15B to install and operate materials recycling facility (MRF) and a refuse derived fuel (RDF) facility and to use existing weighbridge, weighbridge office, site office and washroom/toilets to the south of building 15a) to allow an increase of HGV movements from 58 to 98 (49 in and 49 out) for a temporary period of 12 months – Unit 15B, Ridham Dock Industrial Estate, Ridham Dock Road, Ridham, Iwade ME9 8SR – Agreed Clerk to write stating that Members objected to this application on the grounds of increased vehicle movement. Due to ever increasing traffic there are already problems with the roundabouts near to Iwade Village and the A249 and in the Swale Strategy it has been stated that there should be no more development until this issue is resolved.

Action: Clerk

Determined applications:

2. APP/V2255/A/13/2208837 – Appeal by Mrs. P. MacKenzie – Proposed replacement dwelling and garage: 2 Swaysdown Game Farm, School Lane, Iwade ME9 8QH – noted.

11. Other Matters Arising - None

12. Next Meeting

The next Meeting will take place on Wednesday 8th January, 2014, commencing at 7.30 p.m. in Iwade Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 10.20 p.m.